

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project  
Weekly Report  
August 27, 1999

Length of Stay at the Vermont State Hospital

Rod came back from a meeting at AHS last week wanting to know about inpatient length-of-stay. On examination, the question turned out to have a number of parts. The first question had to do with any change in length-of-stay at the Vermont State Hospital as the institution has decreased in size. This led to questions about length-of-stay in 72-hour hold at general hospitals in Vermont that might be related to changes in VSH length-of-stay. Finally, the question expanded to include a comparison of the length-of-stay at VSH with the length-of-stay in similar facilities in other states. This week's PIP begins to address the area of concern by looking at the proportion of VSH patients who are discharged within 30 days of admission over the past ten years.

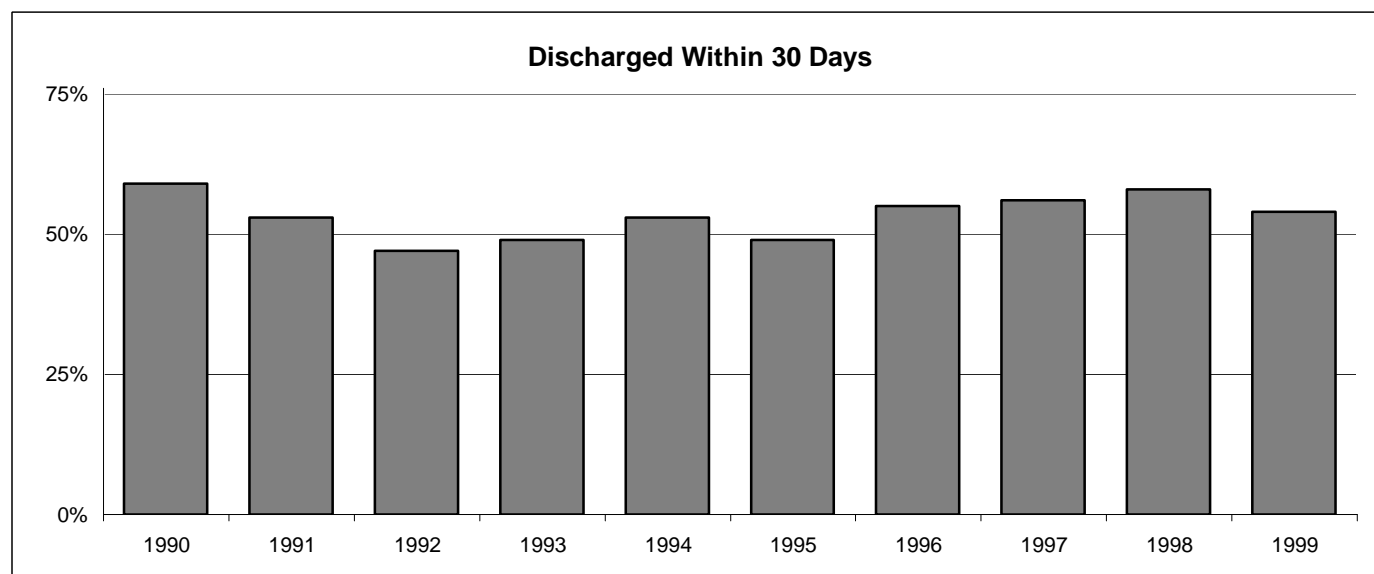
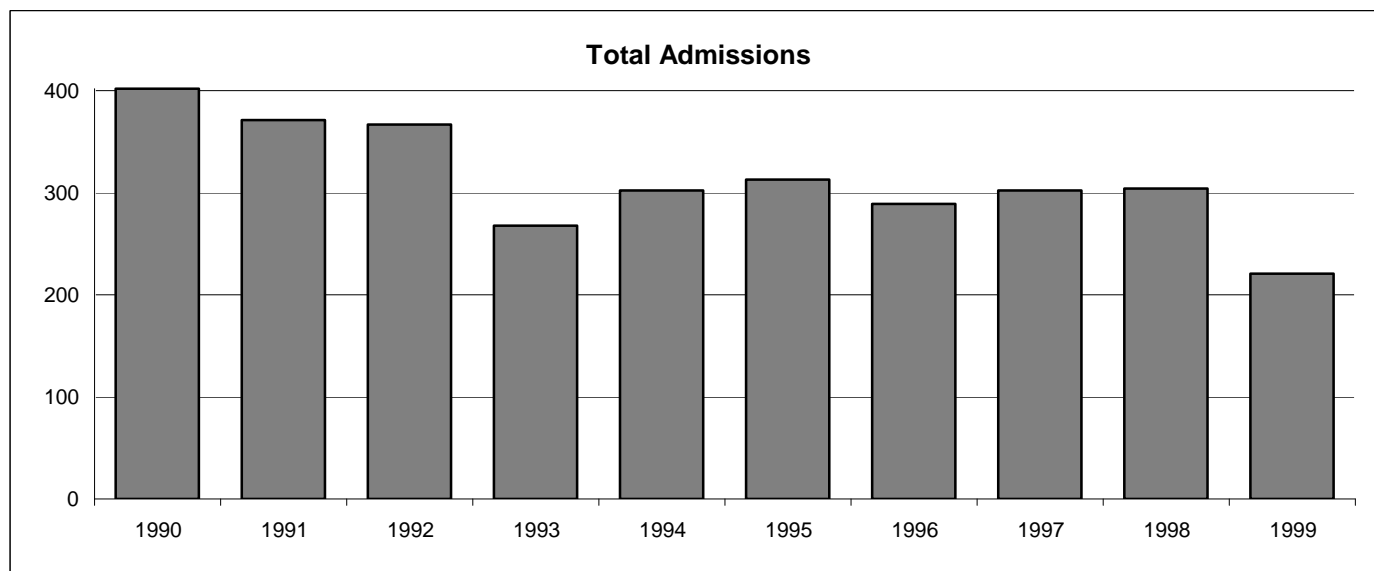
The first of the attached tables presents information of the number of admissions and the 30-day discharge rate for the Vermont State Hospital as a whole. As you will see, the number of admissions to VSH has decreased by almost half between 1990 and 1999. Most of that decrease, however, occurred between 1992 and 1993 (a 27% decrease), and between 1998 and 1999 (also a 27% decrease). Interestingly, there appears to have been no change in the proportion of patients who were discharged with 30 days of admission. This is true for the period as a whole and for the specific years in which most of the decrease in admissions occurred.

The second of the attached tables provide detail regarding total admissions and 30-day discharge rates for each Vermont service area for 1990 through 1999. As you will see, there are substantial differences in the number of admissions to VSH from the various regions of the state, but the 30-day discharge rates tend to be very similar across regions.

We plan to continue this line of inquiry by asking similar questions about admissions to 72-hour hold and length-of-stay in general hospitals subsequent to those admissions. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please send your comments, suggestions, and questions to [jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us](mailto:jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us) or call 802-241-2638.

# Vermont State Hospital

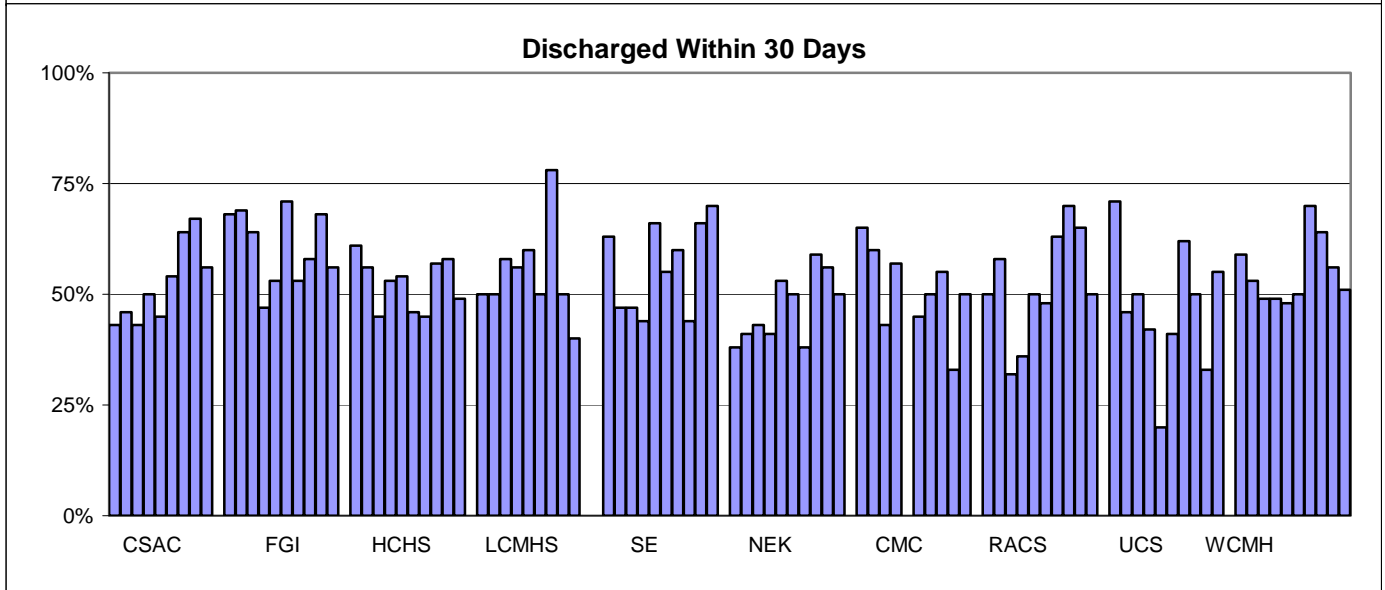
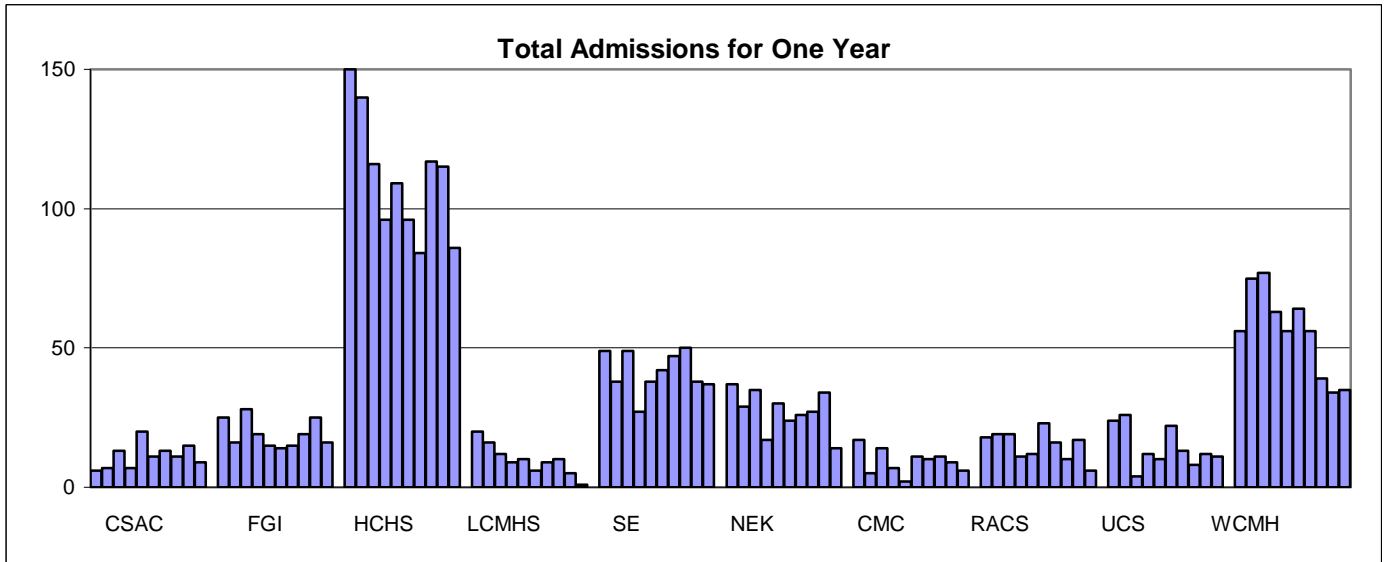
## Patients Discharged Within 30 Days: 1990-1999



FY	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Total Admissions	402	371	367	268	302	313	289	302	304	221
Discharged Within 30 Days	59%	53%	47%	49%	53%	49%	55%	56%	58%	54%

FY1999 discharge rate is calculated for July 1998 through May 1999 ( n = 199).

**Vermont State Hospital  
Patients Discharged  
By Community Provider 1990-1999**



Number of Discharges											
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Ten YR Average
CSAC	6	7	13	7	20	11	13	11	15	9	11
FGI	25	16	28	19	15	14	15	19	25	16	19
HCHS	150	140	116	96	109	96	84	117	115	86	111
LCMHS	20	16	12	9	10	6	9	10	5	1	10
SE	49	38	49	27	38	42	47	50	38	37	42
NEK	37	29	35	17	30	24	26	27	34	14	27
CMC	17	5	14	7	2	11	10	11	9	6	9
RACS	18	19	19	11	12	23	16	10	17	6	15
UCS	24	26	4	12	10	22	13	8	12	11	14
WCMH	56	75	77	63	56	64	56	39	34	35	56
State Totals	402	371	367	268	302	313	289	302	304	221	314
30 Day Discharge Percentages											
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Ten YR Average
CSAC	50%	43%	46%	43%	50%	45%	54%	64%	67%	56%	52%
FGI	68%	69%	64%	47%	53%	71%	53%	58%	68%	56%	61%
HCHS	61%	56%	45%	53%	54%	46%	45%	57%	58%	49%	52%
LCMHS	50%	50%	58%	56%	60%	50%	78%	50%	40%	0%	49%
SE	63%	47%	47%	44%	66%	55%	60%	44%	66%	70%	56%
NEK	38%	41%	43%	41%	53%	50%	38%	59%	56%	50%	47%
CMC	65%	60%	43%	57%	0%	45%	50%	55%	33%	50%	46%
RACS	50%	58%	32%	36%	50%	48%	63%	70%	65%	50%	52%
UCS	71%	46%	50%	42%	20%	41%	62%	50%	33%	55%	47%
WCMH	59%	53%	49%	49%	48%	50%	70%	64%	56%	51%	55%